

LES EPARGES HELD AGAINST GERMANS BY FRENCH BIG GUNS

Strong Counter Attack Preceded by Cannonading Fails to Take Town.

BIG GUNS ARE ACTIVE

SUMMARY OF THE WAR NEWS.

The French War Office reports that German forces have failed in an attempt to gain back the ground lost at Les Eparges. Similar attacks made in the forest of the wood were repulsed. Otherwise the French authorities say, their entire front has been quiet.

The War Office at Berlin says that the French have been repulsed in attacks made at Combrès, in the Alti wood, and in the Le Preire wood. Three women were killed in the open town of Muelheim by a bomb from a French aeroplane. The Germans have captured nine Russian officers and 130 soldiers in their advance east of Marnopol.

Petrograd announces that the Austrian forces have been driven back along the entire line between Duka and Svalnik and left supplies and ammunition in their wake. It is surmised that Germany is preparing for a demonstration near Cracow.

GERMANS FAIL TO RETAKE LES EPARGES

Counter Attack Against Point in "Wedge" Repulsed.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PARIS, April 12.—With the exception of one counter attack delivered by the Germans at Les Eparges the last twenty-four hours seem to have been uneventful along the entire front. A violent gas and rifle fire was opened on the French positions at Les Eparges last night. This was the forerunner to a strong attack delivered just before dawn, but without success.

As at the close of another day, the French forces still hold the considerable territory and many trenches wrested from the German lines forming the St. Mihiel wedge. Outside of the assaults made at Les Eparges last night the Germans did little besides trying to regain some of the trenches they lost in Le Preire wood. There were artillery actions at various parts of the front.

The night communiqué follows: During the night of April 11-12 the Germans, after subjecting Les Eparges to a violent gas and rifle fire, delivered a counter attack at 4.30 o'clock. They were repulsed. In the Alti wood, west of the town of Flirey, artillery actions have occurred without any infantry engagements.

In the Le Preire wood the Germans attempted an attack yesterday at 8 o'clock in the evening. It was easily repulsed. During the night of April 11-12, a German machine gun was captured by the French. A German machine gun was captured by the French. A German machine gun was captured by the French.

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There is little to add to this after the night of April 11-12. During April 11 engagements continued the whole day in Belgium in the region of Albert. In France, the fighting was confined to the Alsace and in the Champagne district.

In view of the fact that no elements took place between the Meuse and the Moselle after our success of April 8 we have devoted ourselves to reorganizing the positions we were during the course of that fighting.

On the western fringe of the front, the Le Preire wood repulsed two German attacks. German machine gun attacks were repulsed under the fire of our infantry and artillery. We took five machine guns and a heavy machine gun. April 12, the front of the Alti and Le Preire.

POPE'S APPEAL GARBLED.

Home Sees Germany's Hand in Peace Interview.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

ROME, April 12.—The accuracy of the interview with the Pope published in the New York World, as reproduced here, is doubted by the papal entourage, while the Pope's alleged allusion to American supplies of arms to the Allies is declared to be unfounded.

The Pope is well trained and experienced diplomat and since the outbreak of the war he has been striving to preserve the neutrality of the Holy See. It is therefore impossible that he would indirectly aid the Austro-German cause by the misuse of his influence in the United States.

It is official to Americans to forego this "trial" with the Allies, the object of favoring the enemies of the latter. Besides the Pope's interference in internal affairs of the United States, which is unlikely to be resented. It also almost certainly the suspicion in some quarters of the official sympathies of the Vatican.

An official denial or explanation is expected from the Vatican in due course. Meanwhile it is an open secret that the interview was obtained through the Italian envoy to the Vatican, who acted as intermediary, and for this reason it is not to be taken too seriously. It is also to be noted that the German ambassador in the United States, who was probably interviewed, was not present at the interview.

"WEDGE" BATTERED BY FRENCH BIG GUNS

British Officer Lays Success to Superiority of Heavy Artillery.

COMMAND ALSACE PLAIN

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

LONDON, April 12.—The press bureau has issued a descriptive article written by a British officer who has just completed a trip along the French front from Thann to St. Mihiel. Writing of the French positions in the southern Vosges he says:

"By means of soldiers, mules and oxen even the heaviest guns have been dragged into the mountains and cunningly established, and it is largely due to the accurate fire of this artillery and its overwhelming preponderance that the German trenches at Hartmannsvillerkopf were captured. The loss to the French in this action was trifling, while its importance to the French was very great indeed. From it and the neighboring heights already held the plains of southern Alsace now lie open to the French, who can shell from these positions the railways, the factories and the cantonments used by the Germans in the valley."

"Throughout the winter the fighting in this area has been most severe. The attacks have often been made through snow that reached up to the men's waists. The trenches lie 40 to 500 yards apart, but as they exist now the French trenches are for the most part on higher ground than the German trenches and overlook them."

"The morale and spirit of the French troops are splendid. They are full of confidence and thoroughly realize that they have the upper hand."

"On the right bank of the Meuse," continues the observer while writing of the wedge at St. Mihiel, "the Germans hold St. Mihiel and a bridge to the left bank in the outskirts of Chauvencourt. This German salient is one of the most remarkable features of the whole front. The armchair critics would, no doubt, say the German line has been allowed to remain, stretching as it does like a great tongue to lap the waters of the Meuse, but the truth of the matter is that the German positions here are very strong, and their artillery is especially favored by the wooded heights on their side of the river."

GERMANS DENY LOSSES.

Berlin Asserts No Fighting Took Place at Les Eparges.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

BERLIN, via London, April 12.—The German War Office issued today an account of the fighting about the St. Mihiel wedge up to April 10. It says there has been no combat at Les Eparges, which the French assert they captured after heavy losses to the enemy. Some of the German positions along this part of the battle front have been taken by the French, says the account, but they have all been recaptured by the Germans, with unimportant exceptions.

"The mention of fighting north of Regneville, but no admission that the town itself has been captured by the French, has been announced at Paris. There is, it is said, no fighting in the struggle about the Combrès Heights has been as severe as the French have reported, but there is no admission of important losses in this vicinity."

"During the night of April 11-12," says the account, "there were artillery actions at several points, especially at Combrès Heights, and also between Regneville and Forzy-Haut. There were infantry attacks at some points."

"Two attacks southeast of Verdun broke down 100 yards before our front. In the Alti wood, a German machine gun was captured by the French. A German machine gun was captured by the French. A German machine gun was captured by the French."

"During the night of April 8-9 heavy fighting took place on Combrès Heights. The French were repulsed. The French were repulsed. The French were repulsed."

"In the afternoon of April 10 the French attacked at the whole line against our position on Combrès Heights, breaking through at one point and reaching the foot of the slope before the attack failed under the fire of our second line troops. Our troops maintained possession of Combrès Heights."

"The enemy did not attack Les Eparges. At the foot of Combrès Heights among French forces were bombarded by our artillery. This day, the French, like all previous ones, ended in complete German successes on all fronts. All trenches lost in these fights were recovered, with the exception of a small and unimportant portion."

GERMANS LESS CONFIDENT.

Resistance Weakened After Big Fight, "Eye-Witness" Asserts.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

LONDON, April 12.—The official "eye-witness" attached to the British headquarters on the Continent finds it a significant fact that the Germans have left the English forces at Neuve Chapelle strictly alone since the desperate fighting there a month ago.

"Looking back over the past four months," he writes under date of April 9, "it is instructive to note the gradual weakening of the German resistance on our front. Formerly any offensive action on the part of the enemy was immediately followed by a counter attack. This is the first occasion on which the enemy has made no reply at all."

"Both officers and men have openly expressed their uneasiness," the writer goes on, referring to the panicky conditions existing at Lille during the Neuve Chapelle fighting. "Apparently a marked change has taken place in the general demeanor of the German troops since after Christmas. Till then they had been absolutely confident and extremely cheerful, but lately this feeling has been steadily decreasing."

The casualty lists published today add 633 names, including 23 killed, to the losses in the fighting at Neuve Chapelle last month. The total losses in this engagement now number 7,244, of whom 2,074 were killed.

RUSSIAN BAZAAR OPENS WITH COSSACK SONGS; LIFE IN THE EMPIRE PICTURED

The top picture shows a booth at the bazaar in the Seventy-first Regiment Armory for the benefit of the Russian war sufferers. From left to right are Miss Grace Vander-

bilt with her mother, Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt; Mme. Bakmeteff, wife of the Russian Ambassador; Miss Lota Robinson and Mrs. W. Payne Thompson. Below is Mme. Eugenie Beloglazova, a Russian singer in national costume.



Ambassador Takes Part in Ceremony at 71st Regiment Armory.

The Russian colony of New York made its first organized appearance yesterday at the Seventy-first Regiment Armory in a picturesque and charming setting of Russian cottages, villas, temples and stores. The bazaar, opened in the afternoon by Bishop Alexander of the orthodox diocese of North America, with a choral chant by the choir of the Russian Cathedral of this city, will solicit the patronage of visitors in behalf of the war sufferers in Russia.

The hosts yesterday were the Russian Ambassador, M. Bakmeteff; Mme. Bakmeteff, M. Ostroff, Russian Consul-General; Mme. Ostroff, Miss Mary Ostroff, M. and Mme. Golevski, Mme. A. L. Scherbatsky, Mrs. Thomas A. Edison and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt. Other patronesses and exhibitors were Miss Grace Vanderbilt, Miss Lota Robinson, Mrs. W. Payne Thompson, Mrs. C. K. G. Billings, Mrs. Howard Cushman, Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, Mrs. Frederick Haysen and Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.

In a Russian kitchen, filled with peasant made toys imported by Mme. Bakmeteff from the centre of Russia, the Russian Ambassador and Mme. Bakmeteff and other well known Russians, received their friends and explained the industries and features of Russian life. Mme. Bakmeteff expressed the hope that many Americans would visit the bazaar. Articles to satisfy almost any curiosity are offered, arranged about the dance floor are rows of log cabins, an

Ukrainian windmill, a Russo-Egyptian shop, a Finnish craftsman shop, a Kirgiz grey camp, a Petrograd cafe, a Russian art shop, a Manchurian temple, a Caucasian kiosk and a Russian country store.

Women visitors evinced particular in-



Ambassador Takes Part in Ceremony at 71st Regiment Armory.

terest in the needlework and lace displayed in the window by Mrs. E. D. Bonham, treasurer of the Russian American War Relief Society. The Russian Theological Seminary at Tientsin, N. J., also exhibited lace made by peasants at Sibir, Russia, an early mission tent, a Russian peasant store, fitted out by G. G. Doboff with home utensils, furniture and food made by Russian immigrants, draw much attention.

Yesterday afternoon and evening a programme of Russian dances, Cossack songs and peasant celebrations was given. Andrew Demitroko, the Russian tenor, will appear to-night. Miss Helena V. Sayn, Russian violinist, will play in the afternoon. Mme. Eugenie Beloglazova will sing and Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Castle will dance in later programs. The bazaar will be open daily from 3 o'clock until midnight. It will be closed on Saturday.

Women visitors evinced particular in-

EXPLOSION DISABLES BRITISH FREIGHTER

Damage to the Wayfarer May Have Been From Internal Causes.

Special Cable Dispatches to The Sun.

LONDON, April 12.—The Wayfarer, a British freighter of 6,000 tons, belonging to the Harrison Line, was towed into Queenstown this evening after having been disabled by an explosion. The explosion occurred while the vessel was off the Shilly Islands.

It is not known whether the explosion was caused by mine, or a torpedo of internal origin. The crew, who have been landed at Falmouth, expressed various opinions. They say no explosion was in sight when the disaster occurred.

There is considerable mystery felt over the Wayfarer here aside from the uncertainty of the way in which she was damaged. Apparently there were a large number of men on board. One hundred and twenty of them were landed at Falmouth. One of them is quoted anonymously as saying that he did not expect to be back in England so soon.

It is not known whether or not any lives were lost, but it is said that one boat captain. Some of the reports speak vaguely of passengers aboard, while others, who are equally vague, make no reference whatever to the character of the ship's complement.

From the foregoing despatch, it seems probable that the Wayfarer, which had been requisitioned by the British Government, had been turned into a transport and was taking troops to France.

WILHELMINA CASE ENDS.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—The State Department was notified today of the virtual settlement without prize court proceedings of the case of the American steamer Wilhelmina, which was held up at Falmouth, England, with a cargo of foodstuffs for Germany.

N. B. Lindholm, one of the owners of the cargo, and his counsel, former Senator Towne of Minnesota, said Assistant Secretary of State Anderson and continued despatches from London announcing that the British Government had purchased the cargo and had agreed to pay all the damages and charges involved in the cargo's delay and prospective profits.

U. S. SHIPS SEEK FREEDOM.

Three, Detained by British, Appeal to American Embassy.

LONDON, April 12.—Two American steamers, detained at Kirkwall by the British marine authorities, have appealed to the American Embassy. They are the Navajo, with a cargo of cotton from Galveston, and the Navaho, with a cargo of wool from New York to Malmo, Sweden.

The Navajo has been ordered to a prize court after the order in council which was issued by the British Government. A similar appeal has been made to the American Embassy by the captain of the American tank steamer Liana, from New York to Copenhagen. She also is detained at Kirkwall.

PAU, BACK IN PARIS, SAYS DRIVE IS NEAR

Commander Declares All Is Ready for New Great Offensive.

Special Cable Dispatches to The Sun.

PARIS, April 12.—The railroad stations were thronged early this morning with joyful bands of conscripts of the class of 1914 who were on the way to join their regiments. All the nineteenth-year-old conscripts were flowers and waved flags, while ribbons were wound about their hats. At the Gare de Lyon some of the conscripts had the good fortune to meet and welcome Gen. Pau, who has just returned from his visit to Athens, Bucharest, Sofia, Petrograd and Rome.

The cheers of the crowd were hushed by the strains of the "Marseillaise" sung by the young soldiers. Gen. Pau stopped and doffed his hat, remaining bareheaded until the national hymn was finished. Then he advanced toward the conscripts and cried: "Vive la classe 1914! Vive la France!"

Among the crowd who welcomed Gen. Pau at Nice was Abbe Crepeaux, the parish priest of Nice, who is a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor. He was formerly a liaison colonel in the army. He was a fellow student with Gen. Pau at the officers' training school at La Fleche.

The two men greeted each other warmly. The Abbe asked the general if he still had his pipe. The general thereupon produced a well colored specimen and asked the priest to smoke it. The priest immediately produced an equally well colored pipe.

A Polish paper published an interview with Gen. Pau in which he is quoted as saying:

"It is impossible to fix the date for our coming offensive movement, but all the preparations are practically complete and all arrangements have been made for this object."

"We shall hear serious talk about peace toward the end of the year, but the negotiations will undoubtedly last a long time."

SECRET COUNCIL IN ROME.

Italians Expect Important Announcement on War.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. ROME, April 12.—Baron Salmio, Minister of Foreign Affairs, held a long conference yesterday with the King. It was semi-officially denied that there was any particular significance in the conference.

When the Cabinet Council convened in a long session this afternoon, about which nothing was revealed, the belief became general that a decision of importance relating to the European war may be expected very soon.

It was admitted tonight that the council had under discussion military measures the nature of which could not be divulged.

BATTLE FOR UZOK PASS CONTINUES

Repeated Attacks by Austrians Are Repulsed, Says Petrograd Report.

FIGHTING IN POLAND

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PETROGRAD, April 12.—The following official statement was issued here to-night:

West of the middle Niemen isolated engagements occurred yesterday. Near Ossowiec and in the vicinity of Zedwahn and between the Plaza and Omulew rivers artillery duels occurred. A German attack against the village of Sanfrank was repulsed.

In the Carpathians, in the direction of Rostok, on Saturday large enemy forces repeatedly attacked us, but were met at short range by our effective fire and were repulsed. Our defensive developed into a progressive movement and a violent battle was fought in the region of Uzok Pass, which is still held by the Austrians. In this fighting we captured 700 prisoners and three guns.

In the direction of Strzy River we repulsed attacks on the Rosochacz-Konowka-Konowka-Rosanka front, inflicting terrible losses on the Austrians.

AUSTRIAN PLAN FAILS.

Effort to Attack Russian Rear Is Frustrated.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

LONDON, April 12.—An Austro-German plan to cut into the rear of the Russian advance and thus cut off the Carpathians from those in East Galicia, has failed, according to the Petrograd correspondent of the Times. The dash was made in the direction of Rostok with German reinforcements from the right bank of the Vistula, from Sandomierz and from Opatow, but the result has been the capture of a large number of prisoners. The correspondent says that the battle in the Carpathians is held by all in Petrograd as marking the turning point of the war and the Russians will not permit anything to prevent their success.

The Russian advance toward the Hungarian plains has aroused the enemy to great activity," he telegraphs. "This is seen in various directions, but all the Russian efforts have hitherto been repulsed and the intense fighting is far from over."

"Actions in the direction of Rostok and Strzy have assumed a severe character owing to the Austrians receiving large reinforcements. The object has been to penetrate the Russian disposition at Silesia, Russia, an early mission tent, a Russian peasant store, fitted out by G. G. Doboff with home utensils, furniture and food made by Russian immigrants, draw much attention."

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PRUSSIAN LOSSES, 1,164,427.

New Lists at Berlin Contain 31,336 Names.

COPENHAGEN, April 12.—Petersen issued in Berlin today the total Prussian losses to date at 1,164,427.

Five more Prussian casualty lists, containing 31,336 names, were issued today.

The general situation remains unaltered. There have been artillery duels at various points in Russian Poland and in western Galicia.

Russian attacks along our front in the woods of the Carpathian Mountains have been repulsed. These attacks were especially violent east of Uzok Pass, where the enemy's losses were heavy and we captured 820 men.

In southeastern Galicia and in the Bukovina, heavy artillery actions are occurring in isolated positions.

KING ALBERT THANKS WILSON.

Sends Message in Reply to Birthday Congratulations.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—King Albert of the Belgians has sent the following message to President Wilson:

"It is a great pleasure for me to greet the birthday of our friend and ally, the President of the United States. I am sure that the people of Belgium will join me in expressing their warmest wishes for his health and success in his noble task."

The King's reply to the message of friendship sent me on the occasion of my birthday."

GEN. VAN DITFORD KILLED.

BRUSSELS, via Amsterdam, April 12.—Major-General van Ditford, a member of the Prussian staff, has been killed in fighting near Louvain on the eastern front. Before the war he was the commander of the Tenth Infantry Brigade stationed at Frankfurt.

The American Hospital at Munich, Mr. Davidson said, complains of a shortage of bandages, gauze and such articles. It has to rely principally on the American Red Cross for supplies.

Mr. Davidson declared that in Germany England is hated as much as ever and America more than ever.

GUNS IN THE LOUVRE, BERLIN ANNOUNCES

Paris Monuments Are Used as Military Stations, Say the Germans.

BOMBS ON NANCY FORTS

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

BERLIN, by wireless to Sayville, L. I., April 12.—Many historical monuments in France are now being used as military stations, the Germans say in their official statement, issued today. The dropping of bombs on the fortifications at Nancy is reported. The official announcement is as follows:

Sunday was comparatively quiet on the western front. French attacks in the Argonne against the Combrès position in the Alti forest and in the forest of Le Preire were all repulsed.

Inasmuch as an attack by the enemy resulted in the killing with bombs of three women in the open town of Muelheim, German bombs were dropped on the central group of fortifications in the Alti forest, with the intention of inflicting further searchlights, wireless apparatus and machine guns.

In the German advance to the east near Marnopol, some Russian officers and 1350 soldiers were taken prisoners. Four machine guns were also captured. To the northwest of Louvain the Russians threw bombs which did not explode, but which developed asphyxiating gases.

The Russian authorities officially have circulated a report concerning the mutilation of Russian non-commissioned officers in the presence of German officers. This is an absurd falsehood and unworthy of discussion.

The German official report as received through London differs somewhat from the above. The differences may be noted in the following:

Minor French attacks in the Argonne failed.

Between the Meuse and the Moselle Sunday was comparatively quiet. In the evening hours the French commenced an attack on Combrès Hills, but after two hours of fighting the attack was repulsed. A renewed attack during the night in the Bois Le Preire fighting took place at close quarters during the day, in which we retained the upper hand.

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By way of retaliation for the bombardment by French aviators on April 8 of the open town of Muelheim, which town is situated outside the zone of operations, resulting in the killing of three women, the town of Nancy was liberally bombed by us with explosive and incendiary bombs.

According to statements made by French officers, the cathedrals of Nancy, Douai, Paris and Troyes and prominent Government buildings such as the National Library, museums, the Louvre, the Hotel des Invalides, have been bombed with military equipment, including searchlights, wireless telegraph stations and machine guns.

RUSSIANS REPULSED.

Austrians Captured 830 Near Uzok Pass, Says Vienna.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

BERLIN, via London, April 12.—The following official statement was issued in Vienna by the Austrian War Office today:

The general situation remains unaltered. There have been artillery duels at various points in Russian Poland and in western Galicia.

Russian attacks along our front in the woods of the Carpathian Mountains have been repulsed. These attacks were especially violent east of Uzok Pass, where the enemy's losses were heavy and we captured 820 men.

In southeastern Galicia and in the Bukovina, heavy artillery actions are occurring in isolated positions.

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MURAD
THE TURKISH CIGARETTE

Last year more MURADS were smoked than any other 15c Turkish cigarette in the world.

15c

Wherever you go, you will find MURAD Cigarettes in the world.

Everwhere Why?

MEN IN TRENCHES

THANK B. M. BARUCH

French Soldiers Send Letters of Gratitude for Gifts Sent From Here.

CONFIDENT OF VICTORY

B. M. Baruch, who has made extensive contributions to the Lafayette fund, has received many letters of gratitude from French soldiers in the trenches. The spirit of these letters is shown in the following quotations:

"CHAMPAGNE, March 24, 1915.

"Dear Sir: I have just received from you a parcel which has filled me with joy, and as your address was enclosed I am losing no time in thanking you and telling you how grateful I am that you should have thought in this manner of the young French soldier who is fighting for the honor of his country. My only hope is that the forthcoming victory will give us all the joy in this manner prove our gratitude. Once again thanking you from the bottom of my heart."

"RANGE, Second Battery, French West Africa Colonial Infantry."

"I have received your parcel and I have a great pleasure, especially because it came from America. How can I ever thank you for what you have done for me? And we all the time will accept this expression of the sincere gratitude of a soldier who would not be taken for an ingrate had he not received every means of explaining his feelings."

"I will take advantage of this opportunity, sir, to say a few words about the Franco-German war. I am firmly convinced, and so are all the men who are fighting for the liberation of France and Belgium, that we will succeed in annihilating Germany, a country which has soldiers who are not human, as has been proved by all the acts of violence and savagery which they have committed, whereas the French soldier in France and in Belgium is a man of honor. I would also give every drop of my blood in the cause that becomes a German. I have a great desire to see our dear France and France back to France, and particularly in my case, because my dear parents are prisoners in Germany."

"I will end this letter by sending you once again the sincere thanks of a young French soldier on the firing line, who knows that his letter will find you in excellent health. LIEUTENANT HARRY COLONIAL ARTILLERY, First Moroccan Division, Batters of French West Africa."

"THOUGHTS, No. 3, March 28, 1915.

"In my own name and in that of my comrades, all sons of the people, who have received your parcel, I thank you, sir, to accept our sincere thanks. Your proof of reason has reached our hearts, and the sympathy which we are feeling from all parts of the world is giving us the strength needed to support our misery and the courage which we require to drive the invader from our French territory. Believe me, dear sir, profoundly grateful to you."

"THANKS, HARRY COLONIAL ARTILLERY, First Moroccan Division, Batters of French West Africa."

MANY KILLED IN SHETLANDS.

Town of Lerwick Is Shaken by Explosion.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

ANDERBURY, April 1